

Claims:

1. A fluid filter comprising a shell having an open end, an end plate closing the open end of the shell, the end plate having inlet opening means and outlet opening means, a filter media retained in the shell, the filter media comprising an annular co-pleated member having at least two layers, the outer layer comprising a metal that sacrificially neutralizes the corrosive products in the fluid, whereby, in use the fluid will enter the shell via the inlet opening means, pass through the filter media and exit the shell from the outlet opening means.
2. A fluid filter as in Claim 1 wherein the metal in the outer layer is zinc.
3. A fluid filter as in Claim 2 wherein the inner layer is comprised of a cellulose material.
4. A fluid filter comprising a shell having an open end, an end plate closing the open end of the shell, the end plate having inlet opening means and outlet opening means, a filter media retained in the shell, the filter media comprising an annular co-pleated member having at least two layers, one layer comprising a material that sacrificially neutralizes the corrosive products in the fluid, and the other layer comprising a cellulose material, whereby, in use the fluid will enter the shell via the inlet opening means, pass through the filter media and exits the shell from the outlet opening means.
5. A fluid filter as in Claim 4, wherein the fluid is oil and the said one layer is zinc.
6. A fluid filter as in Claim 5 wherein the said one layer is perforated to permit oil to pass there through.
7. A fluid filter as in Claim 6, wherein the perforations are in the form of slits.

8. A fluid filter as in Claim 6, wherein the perforations are in the form of louvers.

9. A fluid filter comprising a shell having an open end, an end plate closing the open end of the shell, the end plate having inlet opening means and outlet opening means, a filter media retained in the shell, the filter media comprising an annular multi-layer member having at least two layers, the outer layer comprising a metal that sacrificially neutralizes the corrosive products in the fluid, whereby, in use the fluid will enter the shell via the inlet opening means, pass through the filter media and exit the shell from the outlet opening means.

10. A fluid filter as in Claim 9 wherein the metal in the outer layer is zinc.

11. A fluid filter as in Claim 10 wherein the inner layer is comprised of a cellulose material.

12. A fluid filter as in Claim 10 wherein the inner layer is comprised of a synthetic material.

13. A fluid filter as in Claim 9 wherein the outer layer and the inner layer are co-pleated.

14. A fluid filter comprising a shell having an open end, an end plate closing the open end of the shell, the end plate having inlet opening means and outlet opening means, a filter media retained in the shell, the filter media comprising an annular multi-layer member having three layers, the outer layer and the inner layer each comprising a metal that sacrificially neutralizes the corrosive products in the fluid, whereby, in use the fluid will enter the shell via the inlet opening means, pass through the filter media and exit the shell from the outlet opening means.

15. A fluid filter as in Claim 14 wherein the middle layer is comprised of a cellulosic material.

16. A fluid filter as in Claim 14 wherein the middle layer is comprised of a synthetic material.